

Report on the provision of information and services to WIC Act licensees and potential competitors

This report relates to the provision of information and services to licensees under the *Water Industry Competition Act 2006* (the WIC Act) and potential competitors in 2022-23.

Introduction

Our Operating Licence 2019-23 contains requirements relating to the provision of information and services to licensees under the WIC Act and potential competitors, as well as a requirement on Sydney Water to negotiate in good faith with these parties.

Under clause 6.1 of our Operating Licence Reporting Manual, each year we must report on the:

- number of agreements for the provision of services established with WIC Act licensees and potential competitors
- number of negotiations for the provision of services commenced with WIC Act licensees and potential competitors that did not eventuate in an agreement and, where known to Sydney Water, the reasons for this outcome
- type of information requested by WIC Act licensees and potential competitors in addition to information that is publicly available
- time taken for Sydney Water to respond to requests for provision of information or services.

Information about each of these areas is outlined below.

We understand the intention of this report is to capture requests for servicing information that is not publicly available and/or requests for negotiations for the provision of new services.

We communicate on a regular basis with WIC Act licensees that we have existing agreements with for the provision of services. This communication is of a transactional and/or operational nature in relation to the existing agreement. We have not included information about these interactions in this report.

Agreements for the provision of services

No new agreements for the provision of services were established with WIC Act licensees or potential competitors in 2022-23.

Negotiations for the provision of services

Sydney Water did not commence any discussions with WIC Act licensees relating to the terms and conditions of potential future agreements for the provision of services during 2022-23.

However, we have been involved in a number of related negotiations:

- the potential to support City of Sydney's stormwater harvesting and recycled water aspirations. These discussions are ongoing and relate to provision of services at four potential locations. Sydney Water has provided SME input to discussions from our networks, planning, stormwater and sewer mining management teams and, at one location, we were successful in winning the bid to provide Operation and Maintenance Services for stormwater harvesting.
- regular meetings with the Licensees of the Rosehill Camelia recycled water scheme to discuss options to improve value from the scheme
- regular ongoing discussions with Sydney Olympic Park Authority (SOPA) about the potential transfer of the Water Reclamation & Management Scheme (WRAMS) to Sydney Water to service existing and potential future recycled water customers
- regular contact with businesses to develop new and innovative products and services
- ongoing negotiations with Sydney Desalination Plant Pty Limited (SDP) to amend policy and contractual arrangements (under the Greater Sydney Water Strategy) to facilitate flexible operation as a weather independent supply source.

Type of information requested

Sydney Water continues to fulfil its obligations under the 2019-2023 Operating Licence to publish servicing information for each of our major water and wastewater systems. This information is available on Sydney Water's website. Sydney Water did not receive any requests from WIC Act licensees or potential competitors regarding this information during 2022-23. As noted above, we are conducting commercial discussions with City of Sydney for potential services to support stormwater harvesting.

No requests for information, other than communications of a purely transactional or operational nature, ie, those relating to existing agreements for existing services, have been received from actual or potential competitors regarding wholesale pricing for any existing or future schemes.

Response to requests for information or provision of services

We did not receive any requests for servicing information from WIC Act licensees or potential competitors in 2022-23.

As noted above, Sydney Water has held confidential discussions with the City of Sydney regarding the provision of services. Sydney Water has allocated appropriate resources to support the commercial discussions with the City of Sydney and continues to ensure those discussions proceed in a timely manner.